

January 1905.
To the Sherburn Rural District Council.

Gentlemen

When in January last I in conjunction with my predecessor submitted the Annual Report for this district for the year 1903, we had to deal with - in many respects - an exceptional year.

The unusual amount of rain and absence of heat produced an extremely low death rate for that year, viz, 10.6 a rate which was only .5 more than Beverley Rural which was the lowest death rate among Rural districts in the East Riding.

Weather
conditions

The conditions were not the same during the past year. Heat without rain being more usual during ~~the~~ 1904. I believe I am right in stating that taken as a whole the past year has been much drier throughout than the previous years.

Births

The Births for the past year numbered 51, a difference of 18. compared with 1903., this gives a birth rate of 23.66 per 1000, compared with 31.40 for previous year.

	M.	F.	Total
Sherburn, Ganton, & Willerby	19	16	35
Truston, Folkton, & Ilkerton.	6	10	16
			Total 51

Deaths

The number of deaths registered was 40, this in a population estimated at 2155 gives a death rate of 18.56 a considerable increase on 1903 which was 10.6

No deaths were notified from the Workhouse as belonging to this district

The greatest number of deaths occurred during the first quarter of the year
Of the 40 deaths registered

19 males & 21 females

13 of these deaths occurred in the aged column, of these 13, 8 were over 70 & 5 over 80.

Table I gives a summary of the deaths with causes numbers and age.

Diseases of the chest were accountable for 8 deaths, 2 of these were due to Tuberculosis.

Heart diseases caused 3 deaths, one of which was over 60, & the other over 80 years.

There was one death from cancer the same number as last year.

This district seems to be particularly free from this disease.

Infectious Diseases

There has been a slight reduction in the number of notifications of infectious diseases there being 4 for last year compared with 6 for 1903. 3 were Scarlet fever and 1 Erysipelas, no deaths were due to these complaints.

Of the non-notifiable infectious diseases we have had two epidemics one of mumps and one of measles. Measles following mumps at Sherburn, Ganton, & Willerby parishes.

Rumps were prevalent in Sherburn in the early part of the year, and it was found necessary to close Sherburn Schools for 2 weeks, as over 50 per cent of the children were affected. This epidemic was much milder at Ganton measles broke out in July and it was found necessary to close the schools both at Sherburn and Ganton. I estimated the number of cases at the time to be about 216. I submitted a special report to the Council and advised compulsory notification in the future. I do not consider that the closing of schools prevents the spread of this complaint as the most infectious time is during the incubation period, when the child is not considered ill.

Infantile Death Rate

The infantile death rate has been very high during the past year, viz. 12 out of 51 births. This I think I am right in attributing to the presence of the epidemics of measles and rumps in the district; most of the deaths occurred in the parishes where these epidemics were most prevalent.

Premature birth and improper feeding I also think have something to do with such a high mortality. There were 4 deaths from tubercular diseases an increase of one in 1903.

After these deaths I had the walls stripped of paper & the rooms washed out & lime applied before being occupied again. This course I am endeavouring to follow out in all cases that come under my notice, in order to prevent if possible the spread of this complaint to other members of the family, voluntary notification is not in force.

in this district as it is in some others.

Water and
Sanitary matters

Water supply of the district has been on the whole good but owing to the absence of rain during the past quarter, I have noticed a distinct lowering of the streams. Manton water was analysed by Professor Trendelenburg of Leeds and found satisfactory. Elston and Folkton have a satisfactory supply. Staxton supply is the same as reported last year & nothing has been done in the matter of a more adequate supply.

Ganton & Potter Brompton are both satisfactory. As the Sherburn water supply is receiving the attention of the Ratepayers, I shall refrain from commenting on the matter. The quality of the water is good as proved by sample which was taken about 8 months ago and analysed by the County Medical Officer.

The drainage throughout appears satisfactory, improvements have been made in some parts and others are under consideration.

I think plans of the various villages should be kept showing position of drains etc. as there appears great doubt in some districts as to which way they are laid. I have paid regular quarterly ~~inspections~~ visits to various parts of the district & inspected slaughter houses, butchers shops, dairies, etc., they all require lime washing more frequently than is done also better ventilation in some cases. I think a register of such places should be kept. I received a communication from the ^{Home Office} ~~Local Government Board~~ re factory & workshops act but as I have no list of places considered to come under the act I am unable to give any report.

R. Egan. Moriarty, Mott.
Sherburn Rural District.

March 17th 1905